

From: regionalwater.strategies@dpi.e.nsw.gov.au
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox
Subject: Your submission for Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

1. Information on confidentiality and privacy

I give my permission for my submission to be publicly available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website.: Yes

I would like my personal details to be kept confidential.: No

2. Your details

Email address: [REDACTED]

Name: Maria Gillam

Address: [REDACTED]

Contact phone number: [REDACTED]

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?: No

Are you an individual or representing an organisation?: Individual

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?:

If you selected Government, please clarify.:

If you selected Peak representative organisation, please clarify.:

4. Draft Regional Water Strategy objectives and vision

Do you support this vision for the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy? : Yes

If no, please outline your vision for the long term management of water resources in this region?:

5. Information and modelling used to develop the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy

I do have concerns regarding Rous Water putting forth the option for the proposed Dunoon Dam for inclusion in this strategy before the community engagement process for the "Future Water Project 2060" was completed. It devalues the process from a community perspective and while many people may have made a submission to Rous Water they may not now to this strategy or perhaps even confuse the two processes. I hope that the latest community engagement feedback on the "Future Water Project 2060" will be reviewed and taken into consideration. Community opposition to the Dunoon Dam has been long standing over the past 25 years and includes significant issues regarding Aboriginal Cultural Heritage sites, Big Scrub Rainforest, endangered Flora & Fauna and their habitat.

Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should consider?:

6. Stochastic modelling method

Do you have any comments about the modelling method used to develop this strategy?: No

Is there any additional information that you believe could help us assess the benefits and disadvantages of draft options?: No

7. Opportunities and challenges for water management in the Far North Coast region

Do you have any comments on the opportunities, risks and challenges identified?: No

Are there any additional opportunities, risks and challenges that we should consider and what options could address these?: No

8. Draft Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy options

Which five (5) options do you think are most important?: 2. Interconnection of Rous County Council and Tweed Shire Council bulk water supplies. 11. Regional desalination. 3. Use Toonumbar Dam to augment town water supplies. 19. Raise Toonumbar Dam level. 12. Raise Clarrie Hall Dam level.

Please comment on why you think these options are most important? : I believe the interconnection of the regions bulk water supplies will provide enhanced security and reliability of water supply to consumers. This along with a regional desalination plant will provide diversity of water sources and decrease reliance on rainfall options leading into future climate change. Toonumbar Dam has long been seen as an under utilised water source that could benefit town water supplies. The raising of Toonumbar & Clarrie Hall Dams may further increase yield to the bulk water supply and may be less expensive options.

Which five (5) options do you think are least important? (if any): 14. New Dunoon Dam on Rocky Creek 13. New Dam on Byrill Creek

Please comment on why you think these options are least important? : I believe a future water supply strategy should look to diversify water options and move away from the reliance on a singular option of rainfall .

Do you have any comments on the draft options?: I believe NSW Government has provided a broad array of options for consideration.

9. Option combinations

Do you have any thoughts on how the options could be combined with other options?: The options for supporting water use efficiency and conservation, strengthening community preparedness for climate change and protecting and enhancing natural ecosystems should be including as much as possible within financial constraints. Options on water reuse, purification and recycled water should also be investigated as future options for diversification.

Are there additional options that we should consider?:

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy?:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

11. Referral

How did you hear about the public exhibition of this strategy?: